

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A storage medium comprising:  
a specified storage area on which revocation  
information is registered, the revocation information  
designating at least one electronic device in which use  
of the storage medium by the designated electronic  
device is to be revoked,

wherein an electronic device which attempts to  
access the storage medium is controlled in accordance  
with the revocation information.

2. The storage medium according to claim 1,  
further comprising:

a controller for receiving from the electronic  
device which attempts to access, identification  
information indicative of the electronic device, and  
checking whether identification information corre-  
sponding to the received identification information is  
contained in the revocation information, thereby  
determining whether or not use of the storage medium by  
the electronic device which attempts to access should  
be revoked.

3. The storage medium according to claim 2,  
wherein when the controller determines that use of the  
storage medium by the electronic device should be  
revoked, a subsequent process is halted.

4. The storage medium according to claim 3,  
wherein when the controller does not determine that use

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of the storage medium by the electronic device should be revoked, the controller sends the identification information indicative of the storage medium to the electronic device which attempts to access, and wherein

5 contents encrypted with the identification information indicative of the storage medium are written on a predetermined storage area of the storage medium by the electronic device.

10 5. The storage medium according to claim 3, wherein when the controller does not determine that use of the storage medium by the electronic device should be revoked, the controller sends the identification information indicative of the storage medium to the electronic device which attempts to access, and wherein

15 contents encrypted with the identification information indicative of the storage medium are read out from a predetermined storage area of the storage medium by the electronic device.

20 6. The storage medium according to claim 1, wherein the specified storage area is a storage area provided on a read-only non-volatile memory.

25 7. The storage medium according to claim 1, wherein the specified storage area is a storage area which is provided on a rewritable read-only non-volatile memory and can be accessed only by a secret specific procedure.

8. A contents protection method comprising the

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11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the controlling step comprises the step of:

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14. The method according to claim 8, wherein the specified storage area is a storage area which is provided on a rewritable read-only non-volatile memory and can be accessed only by a secret specific procedure.